The Downtown Presbyterian Church Order of Worship for March 7, 2021 Third Sunday in Lent Sunday

Opening Voluntary

Prayer, from *Jewish Life,* No. 1 Chris Szalaj, cello **Ernest Bloch**

Welcome

Announcements

Call to Worship

Jesus calls us from the market stalls Not to leave our livelihood behind

Jesus calls us from the market stalls To fight the empire moving us out

Jesus calls us from the market stalls

To bring us to a home that cannot be bought or sold

Jesus calls us from the market stalls To stay and work together in faith And to turn the tales of greed.

Hymn

"Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"
Amy Finka, cantor

Call to Confession

To find ourselves with Christ, we abandon the illusion that we are self-contained. To find ourselves with Christ, we set aside our resentments and our selfish ways. To find ourselves with Christ, we recognize how we have separated ourselves from Truth. Let us confess our sins together and then silently from our hearts.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Lord have mercy, have mercy on us for not loving our neighbors like we love ourselves, our neighbors the immigrant, the suffering, the ones without electricity and unclean water, the COVID plagued, the people experiencing homelessness, and the fearful.

Christ have mercy, have mercy on your children who are in cages, who are undocumented, who are scared, mentally stretched, and struggling.

You said that everything we do for the least of our siblings we do it for you. Lord have mercy on us, by the power of your Holy Spirit reform us in your merciful images so that we might reflect You, the one who came to us as an immigrant who loved more than anyone. Amen.

(personal prayer continues in silence)

Assurance of God's Grace

There is nothing that can separate us from the love of God.

For our God is a God of grace. Siblings, we have been baptized in the Spirit and into a Community where reconciliation is happening. It is in the name of Christ that we are forgiven.

Please greet one another with words of peace and reconciliation.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Glory Be to the Father

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, World without end. Amen, amen.

Children's Message Suzie Lane

Children's Message Verse 487, vs.4 These Treasured Children

Come, Holy Spirit, help us be a nurturing community; empower us to realize God's kingdom through our children's eyes.

Old Testament Reading Exodus 20:1-17

New Testament Reading John 2:13-22

Sermon Rev. Lee Catoe

Hymn "How Lovely, Lord"

Amy Finka, cantor

Prayer of Intercession, Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Dear God, you are the God of love, mercy, peace, and comfort. The God who gives hope for those who are hopeless. The God of liberation for those who are in bondage of sin, of loneliness, of poverty, and of oppression by the historical and present empire. Deliver us from all forms of oppression, past and present. Thank you for the hope we have in you because without you we may never find hope. You are our only source of hope, even in times of great suffering, poverty, loneliness, and sickness and all forms of injustice caused by the empire. The God who hears the prayers of the oppressed, hear our prayers.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Please use the bread and beverage of your choice

Hymn "How Clear is Our Vocation, Lord"

Amy Finka, cantor

Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary Allegro Moderato Maestoso Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation 394



Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Although this ancient text has often been used at church dedications, the first stanza clearly refers to the people of God and the second to the place where they meet. The stately and soaring tune is aptly named for the edifice where the composer served as organist and is buried.

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How Lovely, Lord

(Psalm 84)



- 1 How love ly, Lord, how love ly is your a bid ing place;
- 2 In your blest courts to wor ship, O God, a sin gle day
- 3 A sun and shield for ev er are you, O Lord Most High;



my soul is long-ing, faint - ing, to feast up - on your grace. is bet - ter than a thou - sand if I from you should stray. you show-er us with bless - ings; no good will you de - ny.



The spar - row finds a shel - ter, a place to build her nest; I'd rath - er keep the en - trance and claim you as my Lord The saints, your grace re - ceiv - ing, from strength to strength shall go,



and so your tem - ple calls us with - in its walls to rest. than rev - el in the rich - es the ways of sin af - ford. and from their life shall riv - ers of bless - ing o - ver - flow.

The author of this text, a Presbyterian minister and educator, was humming this tune as he began to create a paraphrase of Psalm 84 that would emphasize the beauty and peace of God's house. The tune is named for the composer's oldest sister, who was his first piano teacher.

How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord 432



- 1 How clear is our vo ca tion, Lord, when once we heed your call
- 2 But if, for-get ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;
- 3 We mar vel how your saints be-came in hin-dranc-es more sure:
- 4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to geth er or a lone



to live ac-cord-ing to your word and dai-ly learn, re-freshed, re-if world-ly pres-sures fray the mind and love it-self can-not un-whose joy-ful vir-tues put to shame the ca-sual way we wear your in old rou-tines or ven-tures new, may we not cease to look to



stored, that you are Lord of all and will not fall. let us wind its tan-gled skein of in-ward life care: our re - pair. name, and by our faults ob - scure your power to cleanse and cure. cross you hung up - on, all you en - deav-ored, done.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This reflection on Christian vocation was written to provide a new text for a pre-existing tune, and the poet has crafted his words so well that the two parts mesh smoothly. The tune is named for a noted British boarding school, whose music director was a friend of the composer.